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THURSDAY
APRIL 8, 1954

The Luxembourg ratification yesterday of the EDC Treaty was [redacted] gratifying. There were only two abstentions, four Communists voted against the Treaty, and all the other members of the unicameral Parliament announced themselves in favor of it. Dr. Bech evidently handled it [redacted] skillfully, since he opened the debate and arrived at a vote in a single day.

At 12:15 this morning we were in the Mairie of Auffargis for the civil marriage of Pauline Potter and Philippe de Rothschild. Madame Thierry, Philippe's sister, was one of his witnesses and Monsieur Wisner the other. Leila de Talleyrand and myself were the bride's witnesses. This village is a few kilometers from Vaux le Cernay, which was formerly owned by Philippe's father and where he is buried. There seemed to be great sentiment in the village in favor of the family. One of the game keepers who had been with them for 50 years, his father's valet and another employee of 50 years' service, all of whom live in the neighborhood, were in the small town hall, as well as a scattering of close friends. The Maire made a really eloquent speech, in the course of which he ran through the life histories of the bride and groom and later touched on the presumed merits of Leila, myself, and even Evangeline, who was quite resplendent in the background. It was a charming occasion.

When the clerk read the long legal document which specifically identifies the ages, past marriages, and the rest, of the bridal couple, he came to a sentence naming Philippe's first wife, who died under tragic circumstances in a concentration camp, and after he had uttered the words "morte pour la France" he was unable to continue for quite a long time. He finally recovered himself and went through the remainder of his duties.

Afterwards we all went over to La Lanterne, where we had forty people for lunch at little tables in the dining room and the hall. It was [redacted] gay. The chef

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had confected a beautiful wedding cake in the form of three super-imposed temples, with a pastry Eros on the top, all done in the style of Louis XVI architecture. This we had in the dairy, where the trough was filled with magnums of champagne. Champagne had flowed freely throughout lunch as well, together with what proved to be a magnificent Ch. Pichon Longueville (Lalande) 1921. With so many Rothschilds present, I thought it best to give them a red Bordeaux with which they were probably not particularly familiar. The house was lovely -- the chandeliers festooned with flowers, radiators covered with moss, and spring blossoms in great profusion everywhere. Luckily, the day was beautiful and sunny; otherwise, the walls of the house would have bulged from the impact of so many bodies. Amongst the guests were mayors, prefects, bankers, artists, and many pretty women; professional men/ it all seemed a great success.

I went to the office this afternoon and found no special problems there.

Tonight we went to a large dinner at Philippe's house. I sat between Jacqueline Patenôtre and Louise de Vilmorin.

After dinner I had a short talk with René Mayer, who is as determined as ever in his advocacy of EDC, with Paul Reynaud, who considers the situation of the garrison at Dien Bien Phu as very precarious, and with Alphand, who is alarmed over having been told today by an American newspaper correspondent that Al Gruenther considers Juin essential to him and therefore wishes to retain him in his SHAPE command. Alphand is easily alarmed, but I will check this rumor, which I do not believe. Hervé said the present intention of the Government is to have a Cabinet meeting Monday, at which time the agreement between the U.K. and the EDC will be approved, and either then or a few days later the Cabinet will fix a date for the EDC debate, which will probably be May 25. On Wednesday it is contemplated that Eden will lay the assurances before the House and make a declaration.

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This would mean the publication by us of the U.S. assurances about Saturday, April 17th.

The news came out tonight that Foster Dulles will be over here next week, probably arriving in England on Monday, Paris Tuesday, and returning to the United States Wednesday night. His visit will be primarily concerned with the Indo-China problem. The French Government has asked for massive additional aid there, but when Dulles arrives the newspapers will undoubtedly charge he has come to bring undesirable foreign pressure to bear on France.

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American Embassy
Paris France
April ›, 1954

Dear Jim:

Hallstein came to see me this morning before his talk with Maurice Schum. n and brought me a letter from the Chancellor expressing the latter's worry about a statement Maurice Schumann made a few days ago in the Council of the Republic. In this statement, which the Embassy is reporting by cable, Schumann had implied that the purpose of "Europeanization" was to bring the Saar politically under European institutions, but to maintain the status quo on economic questions.

In talking with Hallstein, I tried to play down the importance of Maurice Schumann's statement as not necessarily representing any final French Govern ent position. (Happily the statement has received little attention in either the French or German press.) I suggested to Hallstein that he should try to reach agreement with Maurice Schumann on as many points as possible so as to clear the way for a meeting between the Chancellor and Bidault in the near future.

I am enclosing a copy of the translation of the Chancellor's letter.

Sincerely yours,

David Bruce

The Honorable
James B. Conant,
United States High Commissioner
for Germany,
Bonn, Germany.

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